

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 38-64 are currently pending this Application. Claims 1-37 were previously cancelled by preliminary amendment filed on September 20, 2006. The Application has been restricted to one of the following inventions:

- I. Claims 38-51, drawn to a method for load limiting a drive system for mechanical transmission.
- II. Claims 52-64, drawn to an apparatus for load limiting a branching drive system for mechanical power transmission.

Responsive to the requirement for restriction, Applicant respectfully elects Claims 52-64, Invention II, for prosecution on the merits. Applicant respectfully requests Claims 38-51 be withdrawn, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein or equivalents thereof. Non-elected claims, may be made the subject of divisional or continuation applications, to be filed at any time during the pendency of the present Application.

It is the Applicant's belief that the claims are in condition for allowance and an action on the merits is respectfully requested.

If there are any matters which may be resolved or clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the number indicated.

Respectfully submitted,

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